

Amusements and Meetings To-Night.

BOOTH'S THEATRE.—1:30 and 8: "Sardanapalus."
 FIVE AVENUE THEATRE.—1:30 and 8: "As You Like It."
 GRAND THEATRE.—1:30: "Lady of Lyons." 8: "The Fool's Revenge."
 NIELSEN'S GARDENS.—1:30 and 8: "Baba."
 CIRCUS NOVELTY THEATRE.—2 and 8: Variety.
 PARK THEATRE.—1:30 and 8: "Muzette."
 FINEY PATON'S NEW THEATRE.—2 and 8: Variety.
 TWENTY-THIRD STREET THEATRE.—2 and 8: Kelly & Leon's Minstrels.
 NEW THEATRE.—1:30 and 8: "The Two Orphans."
 WALLACK'S THEATRE.—1:30 and 8: "The Shaughraun."

ACADEMY OF MUSIC.—Grand Charity Benefit.
 BROOKLYN TABERNACLE.—11: Sermon. The Rev. T. De Witt Talbot.
 GILMORE'S GARDENS.—10, 2 and 8: Barium's Entertainment.
 HELLER'S WONDER THEATRE.—6 and 8: Magical and Musical Performance.
 MARION THEATRE.—2 and 8: Cromwell's Illuminated Illustrations.
 NEW-YORK AQUARIUM.—Day and Evening.

Index to Advertisements.

ADVERTISEMENTS.—2d Page.—5th and 6th columns.
 BANKING HOUSES AND BANKERS.—7th Page.—6th column.
 BOARD AND ROOMS.—6th Page.—4th and 5th columns.
 BUSINESS CHANCES.—7th Page.—6th column.
 BUSINESS NOTICES.—4th Page.—1st column.
 DANCING ACADEMIES.—6th Page.—3d column.
 DENTISTRY.—6th Page.—6th column.
 DIVIDENDS.—6th Page.—6th column.
 DRY GOODS.—3d Page.—6th column.
 FINANCIAL.—7th Page.—6th column.
 FIRE AND MARINE INSURANCE.—6th Page.—6th column.
 FURNITURE.—7th Page.—6th column.
 HELP WANTED.—3d Page.—5th column.
 ICE CREAMS.—6th Page.—6th column.
 INSTRUCTIONS.—6th Page.—2d and 3d columns.
 LECTURES AND MEETINGS.—6th Page.—6th column.
 MARBLE AND SLATE MASTERS.—6th Page.—6th column.
 MARRIAGES AND DEATHS.—6th Page.—6th column.
 MILLINERY.—6th Page.—6th column.
 MUSIC.—6th Page.—6th column.
 MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS.—6th Page.—6th column.
 NEW PUBLICATIONS.—6th Page.—6th column.
 PROPOSALS.—7th Page.—6th column.
 REAL ESTATE FOR SALE.—6th Page.—6th column.
 REAL ESTATE TO RENT.—6th Page.—6th column.
 SAILING.—6th Page.—6th column.
 SALES BY AUCTION.—6th Page.—6th column.
 SEWING MACHINES.—6th Page.—6th column.
 SPECIAL NOTICES.—6th Page.—6th column.
 SITUATIONS WANTED.—6th Page.—6th column.
 STEAMBOATS AND RAILROADS.—6th Page.—6th column.
 STEAMERS, OCEAN.—6th Page.—6th column.
 TEACHERS.—6th Page.—6th column.
 THANKSGIVING.—6th Page.—6th column.
 TO LET.—6th Page.—6th column.
 TO LET.—6th Page.—6th column.
 TO LET.—6th Page.—6th column.

Business Notices.

THANKSGIVING.—Ladies, Misses, Gents, and Boys' Boots, Shoes, Gaiters, and "Cotton" Ties, Slippers, Portraits. MILLER & CO., 3 Union-square.

DAILY-TRIBUNE, Mail Subscribers, \$10 per annum.
 SEMI-WEEKLY TRIBUNE, Mail Subscribers, \$5 per annum.
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Persons unable to obtain THE TRIBUNE in any of the trains, boats, or hotels in which it is usually sold, will confer a favor by informing this office of the circumstances.

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New-York Daily Tribune.

FOUNDED BY HORACE GREELEY.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 30, 1876.

THE NEWS THIS MORNING.

FOREIGN.—The Russian Mediterranean Squadron is on its way to the United States. The Turkish Grand Vizier is opposed to the new Constitution. — Russia intimates that the Turkish "guarantees" are an open question. — There has been a stubborn fight between the Cuban and Spanish troops. — Minister Dufaure has experienced another defeat in the Chamber of Deputies.

DOMESTIC.—The Returning Board in Louisiana has ordered all the evidence to be in by Friday; Gov. Palmer now thinks the Ouachita barbarity not of political origin; everything is quiet in South Carolina; the Republicans expect an increased majority in Florida.

CITY AND SUBURBAN.—The situation in South Carolina caused much interest in this city. Democrats denounced the use of troops. Merchants said that the troubles were injuring trade with the South greatly. — The Commissioners of Charities and Correction investigated the case of Mrs. Gleason. — Charles Ralston, the bond forger, was convicted. — Gold, 108½, 108¼, 108½. Gold value of the legal-tender dollar at the close, 92½ cents. Stocks dull and lower, closing steady at a reaction.

THE WEATHER.—THE TRIBUNE'S local observations indicate cloudy or threatening weather preceding rain or snow. — In this city yesterday, it was clear and cool. Thermometer, 33°, 41°, 35°.

One thing in the political situation is safe and beyond the reach of returning boards, bayonets, or "bulldozers"—to-day's Turkey.

Having failed so far to "bulldoze" the Cubans into submission, Gen. Campos now wants his troops to convince them by their humanity that King Alfonso offers Cuba a "paternal government." The recent stubborn fight on the plains of Manacass shows that the Cubans don't propose to be convinced.

It is a bad time for Minister Dufaure to endeavor to increase the expenditure for religious purposes in France. The people favor retrenchment everywhere, and an active Radical minority is opposed on principle to sectarian appropriations. Minister Dufaure might better bow to the decision of the deputies and retain his portfolio.

A decision must now be speedily reached in Louisiana. The Returning Board has decided to allow only two days more for the submission of proof, and will then go into executive session to decide upon the proofs submitted. While, as our dispatches show, this secrecy will make it difficult to get any definite idea of the ground of decision in all cases, the whole country looks so eagerly for the end of this business that there will be general relief when the decision is reached, whatever it may be.

The flat contradiction between the two sets of stories we get from Louisiana can hardly be better illustrated than by the statements concerning Ouachita Parish given in a letter from New-Orleans printed on another page. This is one of the so-called "bulldozed" parishes in which a former Republican majority was reversed. The Republicans charge murder, intimidation, whippings; the Democrats insist that the election was fair, free, and orderly. The truth seems to be—that "no fellow can find out."

Entering on war, Russia would have in her favor (1) a good cause—the liberation of the oppressed Christians; (2) unimpeded credit; (3) an immense army, well equipped, and commanded by efficient officers; (4) the hearty support of over 70,000,000 people. Turkish sympathizers abroad credit the Ottoman Empire with great resources, but they fail to prove that a bankrupt nation which is unable to subdue Herzegovina can withstand the legions which have carried the Russian flag to the confines of Kashgar.

Although the Russian fleet will expect only ordinary courtesy in our ports, it ought to be hospitably received. The friendly relations which have existed between us and Russia forbid any lukewarmness on this occasion. The czar's motive for sending his Mediter-

anean squadron here is evidently to keep it at a safe distance from the Turkish iron-clads, and have it available in the event of war with Great Britain. The British Admiralty would hardly be easy in its mind were a Russian fleet cruising in the West Indies, or intercepting those ocean steamers which carry at times as much as a million dollars in gold.

The views of the next Speaker of the House of Representatives on the currency, or civil service reform, a protective tariff, or that great issue which was never heard of it—Mongolian immigration—are evidently of no consequence whatever. He must be a man with a clear head, a stiff neck, and a heavy hand. He must be grounded in parliamentary law, and great with the gavel. If he is noisy, all the better. These are the Democratic requisites, and Gov. Tilden is looking for a man to fill the bill. Mr. Tilden is to make the Speaker, and the Speaker is to make the President. Nothing could be fairer.

No more forcible illustration of the stoppage of business caused by the political dead-lock could be given than the statements made by members of the Syndicate, in another column, that there is no prospect of continuing the funding of the new loan until the question of the Presidency is settled. What is true of the new loan is true of nearly every branch of business, and the universal desire to see trade revive will increase the general disposition to abide by the decision of the State authorities when once made. An appeal to Congress means three months more of suspense and stagnation, and perhaps endless trouble and turmoil.

There is some tall, old-fashioned lying going on in Florida. Being done by affidavit, however, it becomes a dignified affair, and rises to the level of a conflict of testimony. But when one set of witnesses swear that the vote was counted and announced as several hundred more than the figure at which the other set swear it was counted and announced, and later returns from the latter set give an affidavit that the first affidavit was false, the general impression one gets is unfavorable to the veracity of the parties of the second part. The first day's work with these Florida returns develops one or two very neat contrivances; one is, Florida being a State of small population, to utilize the witnesses by swearing them on both sides; the other is the latest and best of Democratic devices. In one county, it seems, they voted a whole emigrant train that stopped long enough to allow the passengers to perform this patriotic duty. Tweed, in all his life, never did anything so brilliant as this. He may well be glad that the seclusion of a prison hides from the public his mortification at being outdone by a rural operator in the art which he had made his own.

THE SKELETON AT THE BANQUET.

According to all the precedents, we suppose that many clergymen will to-day consider the moral and religious aspects of our present political dilemma. It would have been pleasant if Thanksgiving Day had found us in a situation of perfect political peace and certainty. The philanthropist this morning, while observing much to encourage and confirm his hope for humanity, will still regret the anarchical condition of Louisiana and South Carolina, and will sorrowfully contrast it with the peace and the prosperity which Providence has vouchsafed to the remainder of the Republic. The first feeling of the law-abiding citizen of a law-abiding commonwealth, is to regret the fortune which has linked it to outlying provinces in which the forms and methods of constitutional government are recklessly and passionately disregarded. This, however, is a selfish emotion, in which it is not wholesome for any citizen of the United States to indulge. The murders and mobbings, the cruelties and the crimes, the frauds, the fanaticisms and the frenzies, the ignorance and the ignominies which have darkened our recent dispatches, are morally no worse than the theories upon which, years ago, the politicians of the Calhoun school insisted that body-politics should be based. Indeed, the evils of emancipation, most of which thinking men foresaw, are blessings, however disguised, in comparison with the subtleties and the sophistries of pro-Slavery philosophers. Now we know just where we stand. The liberation of the blacks has brought with it many embarrassments, but it has immensely simplified the problem; for, at any rate, law is now upon the side of humanity. We have discarded our wild burlesque of democracy, and can work with hands united in behalf of justice, and mercy, and peace.

It is, moreover, a cause for warm thanksgiving that the power and intelligence and honesty which constitute a moral majority, are upon the right side. Men of conscientious character may for a time be betrayed by their partisan alliances into the support of disreputable political expedients; but it is not to be believed that the mass of the American people, without regard to political distinctions, is afflicted by that lunacy which results in the destruction of governments. Nor must the enormous difficulty of rehabilitating the States which were engaged in the Rebellion be overlooked. The process of reconstruction, from its very nature, could not be a summary one. Skill, patience, merciful consideration, divine pity and the largest self-abnegation were all required, with time for the new machinery to move without the lets and hindrances of inexperience. Blundering, however, was easiest, and from the first we have blundered.

As usual, the measure of fault upon both sides has been about equal. If the best men of the South had promptly accepted the inevitable and the accomplished, putting themselves cheerfully forward as the natural leaders of the new constituency which emancipation had created—if, in a word, they had done what has just been partially attempted in South Carolina by Wade Hampton and gentlemen of his class, political power would have fallen naturally into their hands; and how wisely and beneficially they might have used that power it is unnecessary to say. Sullenness and seclusion from public affairs, a dull and impotent brooding over fancied injuries, a selfish shirking of disagreeable responsibilities—Heaven knows that it was no time for these! Yet these were what the South chose. When they did resume their participation in national politics, they allied themselves once more with that old party of reaction which had tempted them into the rebellion, and assumed an attitude of hostility to the ruling party at the North, which alone could give them help. Not content with fighting in the field, they kept on fighting it at the polls. The North, upon the other hand, did not find immediate and unreserved forgiveness easy or pleasant, and forgot that it never is easy after either a public or a private quarrel. The South's was sore, the North was suspicious; while a horde of adventurers, aggravated types of

Yankee thrift without the redeeming quality of Yankee integrity, poured down upon these desolated States with all the plagues of Egypt—the frogs and the flies and the lice in their carpet-bags, and the contagion of boils and blains upon the hands which they stretched out to the simple-minded blacks who were too glad of kindness to question its disinterestedness. The political power which the whites of the better class were too poor or proud or angry to recover, fell into the grasp of the most worthless of men. They seized upon the judgeships, the governorships, the senatorial and representative offices, the treasuries, the superintendencies of schools, the management of fiscal operations, the assessment and collection of taxes. In some of the States, these vampires have been shaken from the body politic, which already begins to exhibit signs of recuperation. In others, once proudest of them all, the Pariahs as they now are, through their misdeeds and our own, of our political system, this curse of cupidity, this lust of power, this clumsiness of ignorance, are still active and mischievous. The majority have political opinions, but upon the other side are the ratiocinations of the rifle, the whip, the torch, and the knife, which it was idly thought might drive trembling voters, like hunted deer, into the pitfalls of a spurious democracy. The experiment has failed, but if the constitutional power of the General Government had been less it might have succeeded.

What we need to-day, and shall need for numberless days to come, is that patience the lack of which is our national infirmity. It is hard to admit that we are tossed about by the chaos which naturally followed the rebellion. It is not the South alone, but the whole Union, which requires reconstruction; by which we mean, that no permanent peace can be ours until we have restored that independent relation of the States and of all the States to each other, which made the Union "a great and ennobling sentiment." Until we have this, we can never be sure that the Democratic party will not repeat its game of the South, which the Southern blacks are the pawns, pushed hither and thither as expediency may dictate, and moved by that terrorism which has so dimmed the glories of the Centennial Year.

THE PRESIDENT AND SOUTH CAROLINA.

We deplore and condemn the use made of the U. S. troops the other day at Columbia. But it is important that the real blunder in the matter should be recognized, and the popular censure given just where it is deserved. This is not a time for sensational protests against legal and needful action. The events of the day show clearly enough what would have happened if the troops had not been there. The excited populace were ready to run over their own officers, but they have learned what it is to attack the United States, and they do not propose to do that again. If the troops had not been in Columbia, it is now evident that those members of the Legislature whose elections were not contested, and about the legality of whose certificates there was no question whatever, would have been overridden, the usual forms of organization would have been violated, the men whose seats were contested, and whose certificates were irregular, would have participated in it, and their votes would have controlled the result. Now we do not say that these men were not legally elected, that they are not entitled to the seats which they claim in the Legislature, or that Gen. Wade Hampton had not been elected in place of Gov. Chamberlain. All that is matter for investigation by the competent constitutional tribunal. We only insist that it shall be investigated before it is decided, and that the parties in interest shall not themselves make the decision.

The real mistake in South Carolina on Tuesday was in setting United States troops to do the work of policemen. It was not their business to guard the State House—not their business to grant admission to the Legislative chambers, to examine certificates of election, to receive orders from doorkeepers or clerks of the last House. They were in Columbia under the orders of the President of the United States, on the requisition of the Governor of the State, to prevent or suppress domestic violence. Gov. Chamberlain should have guarded his own State House. The Clerk of the last Assembly should have called on the civil authorities for whatever protection he needed in organizing the new one. He should have refused, in calling the roll, to recognize members whose certificates he regarded as invalid, and, if he considered it needful, he should have excluded such members from the hall until the organization was completed. All this we have witnessed again and again at the North. But all this he should have done without the presence of Federal bayonets. If the police were unable to preserve order or prevent revolutionary acts, it would have been a time then to call for the soldiers—not before.

Gov. Chamberlain is the undisputed Executive of South Carolina. Whether a good or bad Governor, he has unquestioned legal authority. In accordance with the Constitution, he made due requisition for United States forces to protect the State Government against domestic violence, and the scenes at Columbia on Tuesday prove that serious disturbance, which the State authorities were powerless to prevent, would have occurred but for the presence of these forces. The Governor apprehended that the hall of the House would be occupied by armed men, so that members of that body whose election was undisputed would be unable to perform the duty of deciding in cases of contest. That power, it is important to remember, rests with the Legislature, and those only whose election is duly certified according to law have any authority to act upon the admission or rejection of claimants not duly certified. The Governor knew that certain claimants, not having the legal certificates, would attempt to enter the hall, claim to be duly elected members, and decide their own cases, and that they would be supported by thousands of armed men. To preserve the peace, and permit those only who had legal certificates to enter the hall and participate in the decision, the Governor asked protection for the regularly appointed doorkeepers. If the President had been present in person, will any fair man say that he could properly have refused?

As to the President, there is the whole case. The proper authority asked protection in organizing a Legislature without violence and in accordance with law. That protection it was the duty of the President to give. If the State authorities had erred in refusing admission to men who have not the usual certificate, but have only other evidence of a right to a seat, there are legal remedies. But it was not the duty nor was it in the power of the President to determine who were entitled to seats. That question was determined wholly by

state authorities, first by the action of the constitutional board of canvassers; second, by the Secretary of State, who gave certificates; third, by the Clerk of the former House, whose duty it was to prepare a list of members and to see that only those who had proper credentials participated in the organization; and finally by the State Executive, who directed that the list prepared by that Clerk, in accordance with the certificates issued, should govern admissions to the chamber. Will any just man pretend that it was the duty of the President or of any army officer to reverse the decision of these officers? But it is of the utmost importance that the line of Federal interference should be rigidly drawn. We have nothing to do with the internal concerns of South Carolina. Our troops are there only to protect the constituted authorities and prevent domestic violence. If Wade Hampton and the Edgfield members legally become the constituted authorities, it is our business to protect them. But it is first the business of South Carolina, under her own laws and through her own established forms, to decide who her authorities are. And we may as well go one step further. The North believes that government rests on the consent of the governed. If, even under the forms of law, a State government is set up which the people will not sustain, and which cannot stand alone, the North will not be willing long to prop it up with bayonets.

LOUISIANA AND THE CONSTITUTION.

Our readers do not need to be told that we have had for years small faith in the present Louisiana Returning Board. Its conduct two years ago seemed to us outrageous, and we have never had any occasion to change that opinion. We have regarded every step it has taken in the present difficulties with suspicion, but have insisted that it is not to be blamed in advance for wrongs which people expect it to commit. In fact, this does not seem to us to be a time for heated partisan denunciations on either side. Fair-minded men will wait for overt acts, and will not make up their minds until the evidence is in. We do not sympathize with the current denunciations because the Louisiana Returning Board does not transact all its business in public. We wish it did; but we can conceive of reasons why it may be better that it should not, and prefer to be sure of the facts before making free with our censure. Those who are so prompt to denounce it ought to consider whether there are not good reasons why grand juries receive testimony in secret upon which indictments are based, though in some cases irreparable injury may thus be done? Manifestly, in spite of the evil results of such secrecy, it is necessary, since it would be utterly impossible to obtain testimony for the disclosure of many crimes if the names and evidence of the first witnesses were known; and, moreover, the warning thus given would in many cases enable criminals to suppress or manufacture other evidence, and thus defeat the ends of justice. But is there not precisely the same reason for secrecy where the crime to be disclosed is the continued terrorism of a whole community by violent deeds and by murder? Men who have perpetrated such deeds are not likely to hesitate in putting witnesses out of the way. The knowledge that no witness can testify in public against such a crime except at the risk of his life must deter many, and may wholly defeat justice. Is it so, then, that testimony may properly be gathered in secret to disclose the robbing of a hen-roost, but not to disclose the greatest crime against the nation?

We agree that it is eminently desirable that all the proceedings of the Louisiana Returning Board should be open and public, so far as that is possible without defeating justice. But the law of Louisiana does not require that all proceedings should be public. It gives discretionary power to the board, so that, if justice would be defeated by instant publication of the names and testimony of witnesses, they have full authority to hold private sessions. It is entirely clear that no such case can arise? On the contrary, if it be proved that many murders and deeds of violence have been committed in any parish, from which a condition of terrorism would naturally result, is it not altogether probable that any body of judges would find it utterly impossible to get at the whole truth—the nature and object of these crimes, and their effect upon voters—without protecting witnesses from harm? Grant that this is a dangerous law. It is enacted to prevent the most dangerous state of things that can exist in a free country. Grant that it is a bad law, for the sake of argument. Yet it is the law of the State of Louisiana, and like any other must be respected and obeyed. The board have no right to abuse their great powers; they have no right to use secrecy for the concealment of fraud; and all good citizens will insist that, so far as it may be found safe and consistent with a full discharge of their duties, they will place all their proceedings and all the facts before the world. If when their work is done, it is seen that the secrecy was not necessary, or was used as a cloak to cover up deeds which they dared not let in the light upon, then their infamy will be only so much the greater, and the United States will find a way to undo their work. But if, as to any part of their action or of the testimony, they decide now in favor of secrecy, that is strictly within the law, and that decision, like any other warranted by law, must for the present be respected and obeyed.

It would be well for those who advise so freely and authoritatively to remember that the laws of Louisiana are not made in Northern newspaper offices. Nor are they made to fit a state of things which exists in Northern States. We do not say that such laws are wise. If a free election, such as we see in Northern States, cannot be held in Louisiana, or Georgia, or Mississippi, it is high time to consider how far those communities are fitted to take part in the government of the United States. But while they do take part, it is our duty to recognize the fact that extraordinary difficulties require in those States extraordinary measures for protection of the right of suffrage. We have no business to make laws for them. There is but one thing to do—to insist that the laws of Louisiana—and not the laws which we think Louisiana ought to have—shall be honestly and faithfully enforced.

SYSTEMATIC LYING.

It is natural that, in a time of such intense feeling, excited people should set about exaggerated stories. But it is getting pretty hard to draw the charitable excuse of mere excitement over some of the stories that are most persistently repeated. They are too systematic, and their purpose is too well considered.

When the Democrats persistently claimed the vote of Colorado from the day it was cast down to the day on which Indiana and Ohio voted, a blind man could see tolerably well what the motive was. When they declared from the outset that Florida and South

Carolina had been carried overwhelmingly by Tilden, and that nothing but gross frauds could prevent him from getting the vote, it was not hard to see what they were after. When simultaneously stories are now set afloat from Washington, from Cincinnati, and elsewhere, that prominent personal friends of Gov. Hayes are convinced, in advance of the evidence, that he has not been legally elected, and are advising him to take the work of the Canvassing Boards and the Presidential electors out of their hands, we begin to suspect that the pen which wrote the multitudinous editorials from Liberty-st. is at work again.

A circumstantial story was yesterday printed from Cincinnati to the effect that Judge Stanley Matthews, the brother-in-law of Gov. Hayes, had been advised from New-Orleans by Senator Sherman that Hayes was clearly defeated, that the proceedings of his supporters were an outrage, and that he should instantly withdraw. Here was a story that it was possible to put one's hand on. So we telegraphed to Judge Matthews to ascertain the facts. This is his reply:

I have received from Senator Sherman no such telegram as you mention respecting Louisiana affairs, nor indeed any from him of any description.

STANLEY MATTHEWS.

Yesterday the story was set afloat from Washington that Gov. Dennison, who gave Gov. Hayes his first commission in the war, and has always been his personal friend, was urging his withdrawal. Gov. Dennison disposes of this in a note which we find in *The Evening Post*, and which has also been sent us by our correspondent in Washington:

I may have said that in my opinion Gov. Hayes would not accept the office of President unless fairly elected, but I have never purposed to advise him on the subject. I have telegraphed him that in my opinion he is undoubtedly elected the next President of the United States, and I believe now that fraud alone can deprive him of 185 electoral votes.

Now let us see where the ready writer of Liberty-st. will next break out!

A STEP FORWARD.

True Christian charity was finely illustrated in a measure adopted at the recent meeting of the Congregational Conference of Connecticut. A resolution invited the other evangelical denominations of the State to unite with the Congregationalists in settling such principles of comity as would remove all occasions of annoyance in their interdenominational relations. Of correspondence was appointed. It will, therefore, soon be ascertained how far this proffer of good will is likely to be accepted.

The occasions for the practice of denominational comity are very obvious even to the secular mind. Not to speak of the lesser evils which have flowed from active sectarian competition, the multiplication of churches in our villages and small towns has been often carried to such excess as to peril the adequate support of Christian institutions. Ministers serving numerically weak congregations eke out a precarious subsistence in such ways as they can. The churches crowd so upon each other that their attitude tends to become one of watchful observation of each other's movements; sincere unity is made difficult, if not impossible. It is natural that each great denomination should be ambitious to be represented in every growing and prosperous town. It is, however, worthy of inquiry whether the minute division and subdivision of the population of small towns with very feeble religious organizations is compatible with the highest efficiency of Christianity, and whether the best interests of the various denominations would not be promoted by the adoption of some principle of comity in the selection of points of labor.

This is, perhaps, one of the objects contemplated in the invitation of the Connecticut Congregationalists to the other denominations of the State. If not, it may be well worthy of consideration. In the West, proposals looking to such consolidation of weak churches of different denominational affinities have been put forth of late years, but with what practical result there are no means of knowing. There could be no better time for trying this experiment of real fraternity than in these years of enforced economy through which the country is passing. Clergymen are no doubt feeling keenly the inconveniences of diminished incomes, and their incomes are seldom superabundant. Combination and consolidation might produce present inconveniences, but would lead on to a better system. However the resolution of the Connecticut ministers may be applied, its spirit will commend it to all men. For even the worldly can understand that if Christian bodies resolve to avoid all occasions of annoyance in their relations with each other, and to cultivate unity, they thereby greatly increase their power.

A STORY FOR THANKSGIVING DAY.

Everybody, let us hope, is making this morning some sort of an effort to keep Thanksgiving. But it is not easy to rejoice heartily in order. Joy and gratitude will not bubble up at the formal turning of a spigot once a year. Church-goers will hear to-day countless discourses on the National progress in a hundred years, and comparisons of our condition with other peoples; but the clergyman will be apt to give hints of a qualm or two as he thinks of the election, and evidently hopes only through fear that there will be no scandalous fraud, and thanks God that things are no worse. The great majority of undevout people will limit their emotions to the enjoyment of turkey and mince-pie and such hospitality as the day calls for. Here and there a good Christian father of a family will strive to bring before his wife and children their special causes for gratitude to Almighty God—the shelter given them during the past year; food, clothes, the unbroken circle about the hearth. But too often the gratitude will be chilled by remembrance of how scanty clothes and food had been and of the hard work it was to supply them at all. It may be that the most sincere thanksgiving will rise from souls which have gone through great tribulation in the past year and by some wrecked hope or open grave have come closer than happy people to the great All-Father and to take him securely by the hand.

The fact is, we are not habitually a thankful people. We hardly give ourselves time for devout emotions, and besides, we are too much in love with our own efforts and their success. We are in the attitude of the man in the Interpreter's house, who raked in the solid sticks and dust and troubled himself but little about the giver of invisible crowns overhead. Among all types of Americans we remember but one man whose condition was such that he could afford to make a Thanksgiving day of the whole year. He was a country physician, not a successful man in any sense; his old college chums, when reckoning over their number, always dubbed him "poor old Seth." One of them is a millionaire in Wall-st.; he asked Seth up from his village to visit him a few years ago, and was aston-

ished to see how keenly the doctor enjoyed his luxury, and exulted in it. He knew the fine points of every horse in the stables better than their owner, pored by the hour over his rare editions, or sat wrapped in delight before the one or two good paintings in the library. The rich man had never known what juice was in his grapes until he saw Seth tasting it. He expressed the wish, in some vague way, at parting, that the grapes were Seth's also. "Yes, I like this kind of life," he said; "but 'it hasn't happened to come in my way,' and went off buoyantly to his shabby shop and bare house as to fresh fields and pastures as rich as those he left. Another of his classmates is a leading politician; held indeed the fortunes of his party in his hands for more than a year. He knows his responsibility; that knowledge and the enormous work he does have told terribly on his brain and nervous system. But he always has time to read Seth's letters on the politics of his county. They concerned the election of a sheriff or a town scavenger perhaps, but were so full of zeal and high-faith in "the triumph of the right," that they sounded like a trumpet blown from a great height.

Other doctors soon grow used and hackneyed to their trade. Seth was not a skillful physician, his brain was of too poor a quality for that, but his work was always as new, as alive to him as on the first day he began it; he went out every morning feeling that the happiness of many a life depended upon his day's work, that death was but a step below his path and God close overhead. It was this very certainty that made everything in the world strong and full of meaning to this commonplace man. Nobody in the village was as zealous a friend, as hot an advocate; if he went a-nutting or fishing, he found no end of fun when young men were bored; nobody was so full of hobbies, of plans for improvement of the village, the State, the country. Check, defeat, tramp on him as you might, he rose eager, exultant; he had a new plan ready in half an hour. In short, this man had been denied talent, wealth, and success, and had brought only one gift from the immortal gods to lighten his dull road. It was the faculty of seeing the world in its freshness and real meaning, of taking life at its height and flower. If he was invited to a dinner it was a high festival to him; his host was the soul of hospitality, the guests hearty friends and comrades; and often his belief made them so. He was never married, but he had a reverence for all women, and was "Uncle Seth" to every child in town. On his death-bed he used to count over the children he had known who were gone. "They'll be the first of my friends to meet me," he would say smiling, as if talking of a long holiday, and those who saw his face after death, with the glad smile upon it, were sure that the children had met him, and that he was among his friends.

The reason why we tell this story to-day is to ask if we cannot find his way of keeping a thanksgiving all the year round. Must life be then stale and hackneyed, and only a dreary grubbing for bread and butter? If our eyes were conched, could not we too see a certain force and beauty in our bare homes and bare lives, great meanings in the trivial incidents of every day, and the All-Father close to us overhead?

A sale took place in Philadelphia on the 28th inst. of two hundred and sixty volumes, formerly the property of Gen. Washington. These books, which were mostly of a military, historical, scientific, agricultural, or religious character, were inherited by Mr. Lawrence Washington, the grandson of John A. Washington. They have been stored in a Virginia farm-house, and it is estimated that the collection has somewhat suffered from the depredation of curiosity-hunters. Many of the books sold bore the Washington coat of arms, or contained his autograph. The sale was well attended and the prices obtained were fair, the aggregate sum being about \$1,900. There were also books formerly owned by other members of the Washington family, and the whole collection brought about \$5,000. None of the books, however, were very large, nor were there any books of much value except for their associations. The library of Washington, if we may judge it by the catalogue annexed to his will, was such as country gentlemen of those times were in the habit of picking up, for practical, every-day use. We note a copy of the *Federalist* (two volumes), bought by Mr. Baker, after an animated contest with Mr. Sabin, at \$50 per volume. It is not stated that the copy contained marginalia. A *Treatise on Steam Navigation* by Robert Fulton, presented by him to Washington, and containing several written papers in Washington's handwriting, brought \$43. There was one book sold which Washington certainly never saw. It was the first edition of the *Book of Mormon*, and as usual was run up to \$16. Among the objects sold was a set of plate owned by Gen. Washington and used during his campaigns. Sugar bowl, mug, tray, candlestick, and platter, brought only \$22.

We regret to see our able contemporary, *The Evening Post*, promulgating at this critical time what we conceive to be the mischievous error that the President can only call upon the militia of a State through its Governor, and that the officers of militia do not owe obedience to the direct orders of the President. In cases of invasion, or in the execution of United States laws, the President has, under the Constitution, under old and specific laws, and under the interpretation of those laws by the Supreme Court, the right to call into the service such portion of the militia as he deems proper, and to give the order to any officer of the militia without the intervention of the Governor.

PERSONAL.

Senator Conkling suffers severely from neuralgia.

Mr. Jefferson Davis traveled westward with Gov. Hendricks the other day.

Six years ago Antonelli erected his own monument at the modest cost of \$20,000.

Mr. Schuyler Colfax has been called upon to give his lecture on Lincoln 1,200 times in the past three years.

Mr. Carlyle does not think much of the ballet, and has compared the dancers to "animated compasses."

Ezekiel, the Hebrew sculptor of the "Religions Liberty," is the son of a wealthy merchant in Richmond.

Dr. Bridgeman of Albany is mentioned as the preacher when the Madison Avenue Baptist Church is desirous of securing.

Mr. Theodore Tilton says that the reading of "Daniel Deronda" makes a man wonder whether he is going to die a saint or a sinner.

Mr. Nasby's new novel is called "A Paper City," and it has to do with the efforts of the hero to make a fortune out of nothing.

John Brougham, speaking the other day of the great Macready, said: "His voice was like broken china clinking in the bottom of a dry well."

That most generous of men, Mr. W. W. Corcoran of Washington, has given the University of Virginia \$50,000 to endow the schools of History, Literature, and Moral Philosophy.

The lower part of Mr. Milton Saylor's face is buried in an iron-gray beard and moustache. He has a wide, prominent forehead, and a pair of handsome gray eyes which twinkle with good nature. He is scholarly, but exceedingly hairy; his friends say that the only reason he has not married is because he has always been too busy to prepare. All this is confined to the word by a correspondent of *The Philadelphia Times*.

Concerning Miss Dickinson's appearance on the Philadelphia stage a correspondent of *The Post* writes: "Miss Dickinson had appeared on the New-York stage, the conditions being exactly the